

SPARTAN DAILY

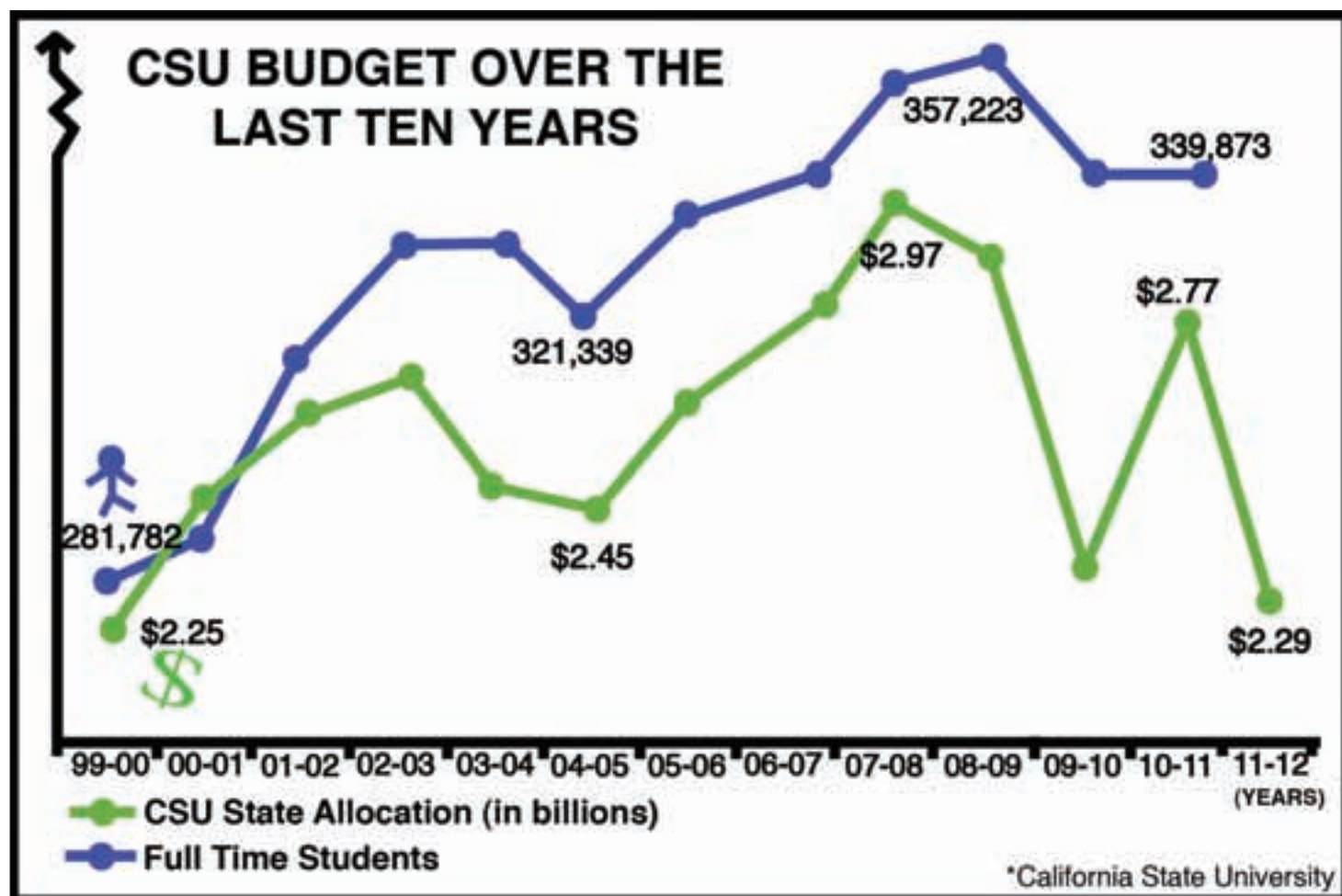
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Governor Brown pitches cuts to CSU budget



According to CSU, the 18 percent reduction or \$500 million cut to the CSU puts state funding support at \$2.2 billion, the same as the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

Ashley Finden
Senior Staff Writer

In the past four years, the California State University system has experienced fluctuations in the budget, according to the media relations specialist from the CSU Chancellor's office.

"The last set of drastic cuts came over the course of two

years from the peak of where we (the CSU system) were in '07 - '08 to the low point that we were at in '09 - '10 and between that peak and that low point were reduced \$620 million, said Erik Fallis.

He said the budget was partially restored in the 2010-2011 year going through a mix of state funds and federal dollars.

"The governor's proposal

is to cut us (the CSU system) again by \$500 million," Fallis said.

This budget cut is equivalent to an 18 percent reduction that will place the CSU system at the same financial level of 1999, only with 70,000 additional students, according to Fallis.

Senior business management major Ian Caceres said with the proposed budget cuts

he doesn't think students can expect to graduate on time or become successful soon.

"I think it is pretty ridiculous," Caceres said. "Give us more money."

He said he is sure with the past cutbacks students have already felt the financial stresses already.

see **BUDGET** page 2

Obama urges job creation in address

Steve Thomma
MCT

WASHINGTON - Looking to boost the country's slow economic recovery, President Barack Obama used his State of the Union Address Tuesday night to pitch an agenda that he said will create jobs and to portray himself as a leader above partisanship eager to work with the Republicans who share power.

It was Obama's first chance to speak directly to the Republicans who seized control of the House of Representatives and increased their strength in the Senate with a landslide election in November. He used the opportunity to try to frame the coming epic debate over the federal budget, national debt and the economy on his terms.

Speaking to a Congress with a Republican Speaker of the House over his shoulder for the first time, Obama paid heed to the 2010 elections. He insisted, though, that the country didn't repudiate his Democrats so much as divide power.

"With their votes, the American people determined that governing will now be a shared responsibility between parties," he said. "New laws will only pass with support from Democrats and Republicans. We will move forward together, or not at

all — for the challenges we face are bigger than party, and bigger than politics."

"At stake right now is not who wins the next election — after all, we just had an election," Obama said in the prepared text of his address. "At stake is whether new jobs and industries take root in this country, or somewhere else. It's whether the hard work and industry of our people is rewarded — We are poised for progress."

While Republicans say that they won a mandate to roll back much of his agenda, Obama insisted anew that the verdict from voters was against Washington gridlock and that their marching order was to get things done to help Americans get jobs, keep them and earn more.

And he pointed to success for the country during his two years at the helm.

"Two years after the worst recession most of us have ever known, the stock market has come roaring back. Corporate profits are up. The economy is growing again," he said.

"But we have never measured progress by these yardsticks alone. We measure progress by the success of our people. By the jobs they can find and the quality of life those jobs offer — That's the project the American people want us to work on. Together."

see **OBAMA** page 2

University Advancement VP announces March retirement

Leonard Lai
Senior Staff Writer

Growing up in Virginia, Fred Najjar came to California in 1989 when he became the director of housing for SJSU — two months later, the Loma Prieta earthquake hit.

"At the time I was brand new to California and I've never felt an earthquake before coming here and I was responsible for 2,000 students after the residency halls were damaged," he said. "I didn't go home for two weeks and I didn't bring a spare change of clothes as students let me borrow their T-shirts and I slept in my office at Joe West Hall."

Najjar, who became the vice president of University Advancement in 2005, is retiring from the position in March after 22 years of service to the campus and holding seven different job titles such as executive assistant/associate and vice president of student affairs and associate vice president of Alumni Affairs, according to a SJSU news release.

Nancy Bussani, associate

vice president of Advancement Operations, will be taking over Najjar's position once he leaves to join Catholic Healthcare West.

"He is very much loved and admired and respected by the colleagues that work with him," Bussani said. "It's going to be very difficult to lose him."

As one of the four university vice presidents, Najjar oversees alumni relations, the university's fund raising efforts, the Tower Foundation, government and community relations and campuswide events.

"In 2005, the school wasn't raising much money," he said. "We were raising maybe only about eight to 10 million dollars a year."

Since then, the university has started the Acceleration campaign in an attempt to raise \$200 million, he said.

SJSU has raised \$130 million and hopes to obtain the rest by 2014.

SJSU beat out every other CSU in terms of money raised in 2007.

Najjar said some of his work was approaching the board of alumni attempting to reach

the more than 200,000 SJSU alumni seeking donations toward the school.

He said one of his fondest memories was when he was able to get a donation from alumna Connie Lurie.

"It was shortly after Christmas in 2006 and I was the only one in the office at the time and I was on the phone with her," he said. "She and her husband were the former owners of the San Francisco Giants and after several days on the phone, we reached an agreement where she was able to donate \$10 million toward the College of Education."

Najjar said he felt especially good about that donation because it was the largest he had ever received toward the College of Education, which ended up being named after Lurie.

"For every dollar the state puts in, we are able to put in about 15 on a good year and eight minimal otherwise," he said. "We are then allowed to add in more classes, bring back more staff and give out more

see **RETIRE** page 3

Photographer sheds light on illiteracy in Burkina Faso



Courtesy: DavidPacePhotography.com

Tabtinga is a small suburb of Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, in West Africa.

Michiko Fuller
Advising Editor

Picturesque, brilliant, blue skies against a glowing, orange ground pulled curious patrons to the second floor exhibit area of the King Library this January.

"Earth Work: Mining Burkina Faso" is a striking photographic collection by David Pace, lecturer for Santa Clara University art and history department.

Pace, who earned a Master of Fine Arts in photography at SJSU, photographed the rust-colored soil and the miners who drive pick axes and shovels through the red dust to provide for

their families.

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa and has one of the lowest literacy rates in the world, Pace said.

The informational material explained that the literacy rate in Burkina Faso is 25 percent overall and for women it's 15 percent.

SJSU alumna Vanessa Borceguin browsed the exhibit and said she was struck by the literacy rate of the country.

"It just shows what we take for granted," Borceguin said. "In different countries they don't have our opportunities."

see **PHOTO** page 3

WEATHER

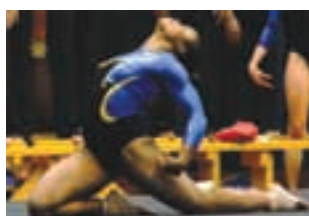


High: 91°
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SPORTS, PAGE 5

Wallace, Spartans tumble into victory

Women's gymnastics team starts season on winning note.



A&E, PAGE 6 & 8

Bistro Tupaz serves European delights.

European-style dining delights taste buds.

OPINION, PAGE 9

Editorial: New beginnings and optimism

Spartan Daily editorial staff looks to the new semester with hope.

The Spartan Daily will return on Monday, Jan. 31.

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Photo courtesy: CSU public affairs
Kelli Benedetti



Photo courtesy: Mehrdad Pourfathi
Mehrdad Pourfathi

SJSU grad students honored at biotech research symposium

Kelli Benedetti and Mehrdad Pourfathi showcased their work on mental disorders and cancer therapy before hundreds of students and faculty from across the California State University system

Marlon Maloney
Copy Editor

Two SJSU students were finalists for the Don Eden Award at the 23rd annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium on Jan. 7 and 8 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County.

The symposium is one best opportunities for students to showcase their research abilities, said Sean Kearns, CSU Science Communications adviser.

“It’s really probably the major statewide event when it comes to fostering development of emerging biotechnology researchers,” Kearns said.

Kelli Benedetti and Mehrdad Pourfathi, SJSU biotechnology graduate students, each had to introduce their research findings to about 500 California State University faculty and students and 100 industry professionals and people from other campuses.

“You present your research by a poster and you also give a seminar session in front of like a 100-150 people and then you get interviewed at your poster by the community,” Benedetti said.

For many of the students presenting, this symposium marks their first foray into research presentation to a broad scientific community, said Susan Baxter, CSU Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology executive director.

“That’s a major milestone, somewhere between their first science fair and a job as a scientist or engineer or a future Ph.D.,” she said.

The Don Eden Graduate Student Research Award recognizes excellence in graduate student biotechnology-related research in the CSU.

“To be acknowledged as a finalist really represents a high level of clear thinking in your research, innovative ideas for trying to answer some question that has not been

pursued and then presenting it in a manner that can help others that are pursuing other similar lines of inquiry,” Kearns said.

Benedetti’s research focused on synaptic partner choice and how it relates to autism and schizophrenia.

“The research I presented was talking about different proteins that could mediate this process that’s called synaptic partner choice, which is basically how neurons select their correct partners to form synapses with,” she said. “It’s been thought that the defect in that process is one of the underlying reasons for disorders like autism and schizophrenia.”

Pourfathi focused his research on a new cancer therapy method.

“Our research was a collaborative effort between San Jose State and UCSE,” he said. “We are working on a new method to basically control and monitor the thermal therapy of cancer — we’re working on the imaging part. It’s based on the ultrasound elastography where we basically monitor the stasis of the cancerous tissues during the teething process.”

In the end, Jason Schott of Cal State Fullerton won the award for his research on the brain receptors behind the expression of genes connected to Alzheimer’s disease.

“It felt great to be nominated,” Pourfathi said. “I really didn’t know that there is such a competition so it was really short notice when my (faculty adviser) told me that I need to apply for that. So I really didn’t know that I would be a finalist, but I was really proud when it happened.”

Benedetti took a positive outlook on the event as well.

“That would’ve been unfair (if I won) since I presented like three years of research,” she said. “I’ve been working on this project since May 2009, but I’ve been a grad student just this semester. So I started on it as an undergrad. A bunch of professors gave really good feedback. It was cool. I liked it.”

BUDGET

From Page 1

Fallis said looking at the situation cumulatively from the high point in ’07 - ’08 to what Gov. Brown is proposing for next year, it’s actually a reduction of \$680 million, or 23 percent of state funding.

Fallis said it is possible that not as many students will be accepted in the upcoming fall semester.

“(The budget cuts) will be felt by students and personnel,” he said.

Pat Lopes Harris, SJSU media relations director, said the university has already implemented a reduction in enrollment, increased tuition, furloughs and layoffs to work with the recent budget issues.

“We’ve laid off 76 people who helped professors in the past,” Harris said.

She said SJSU has had to reduce the number of part-time faculty members who worked in their profession and taught in their area of expertise and brought the latest information to students.

“I know (the budget cut’s) a big deal,” said Dina Verdin, an industrial and systems engineering senior.

Verdin said she has yet to personally feel the impact of the state budget cut because she receives outside scholarships and financial aid.

She said she attended Cal Poly Pomona and that it was cutting and fusing programs

“If voters decide not to extend taxes, there will be a larger budget cut.”

Pat Lopes Harris
SJSU media relations director

together, such as trying to combine industrial engineering and business together or cutting Spanish and physics.

“My department is small, so I really hope they don’t end up cutting it,” Verdin said.

In regards to how SJSU will be affected as a whole, Harris said everything is preliminary.

“There are many more steps we need to go through before SJSU knows what we’re going through,” she said.

It won’t be until July, after a special election, when the impact of the 18 percent reduction in budget will effect SJSU, Harris said.

Fallis said in the Governor’s budget proposal, there is approximately \$12 billion in additional revenue that Gov. Brown may attain by having the legislature place an item in front of the voters who will have to approve or deny tax extensions that are basically extensions of existing taxes that were adopted when the budget was facing some of its difficulties two years ago.

“If voters decide not to extend taxes, there will be a larger budget cut,” Harris said.

Joe Tran, a senior sociology major and president of Students for Quality Education, said he doesn’t believe the budget cut will have an immediate impact on SJSU.

“If the (budget) proposal passes we probably won’t see drastic effects for three semesters,” Tran said. “However, we could have cuts go into effect as soon as this fall.”

CAMPUS VOICES

By: Kristen Pearson

What is your New Year’s resolution?

Jaliza Academia



Freshman Nursing

My New Year’s resolution was to get back in shape and to exercise more and eat healthy.

Babysock



Junior Pictorial art

I was too inebriated the weeks prior to New Year’s to develop a strong enough idea that I could hold onto ... so I abandoned all hope of a resolution.

Brandon Chan



N/A

To cut down on smoking, and to get better grades in school.

Brandon Laptalo



Junior Civil engineering

To get through school, this spring semester and to get a better job, for sure.

Elizah Caldwell



Sophomore Justice studies

My New Year’s resolution was to get straight A’s and to be more social and join maybe a couple of clubs.

Luke Suzumoto



Sophomore Animation and Illustration

I was too busy to come up with a New Year’s resolution, which is a horrible excuse. Maybe my New Year’s resolution would be not to make any lame excuses.

OBAMA

From Page 1

The mood in the room was more sober than the year before, after the Jan. 8 shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., and 18 others prompted calls for more civil political discourse.

Among the guests looking on from the gallery with first lady Michelle Obama were the intern who rushed to Giffords’ aid, the family of a 9-year-old girl killed in the attack, and doctors from the hospital where Giffords and others were treated.

Members took the unusual step of sitting beside colleagues from the other party. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., who in September 2009 stunned the chamber by yelling “You lie!” at Obama, sat Tuesday with Democratic Reps. Susan Davis of California and Madeline Bordallo of Guam.

Obama emphasized increased spending, or “investment,” on several of his top priorities and challenged the nation to see this as a historic turning point comparable to the U.S. space race with the Soviet Union of the late 1950s and 1960s.

“Half a century ago, when the Soviets beat us into space with the launch of a satellite called Sputnik, we had no idea how we’d beat them to the moon. The science wasn’t there yet. NASA didn’t even exist,” Obama said.

“But after investing in better research and education, we didn’t just surpass the Soviets. We unleashed a wave of innovation that created new industries and millions of new jobs. This is our generation’s Sputnik moment.”

Obama proposed greater spending on education to provide better-trained workers, road building to speed commerce and wireless Internet to reach 98 percent of the coun-

try to ease communication. He also proposed to overhaul corporate taxes by closing loopholes and cutting corporate tax rates.

Brushing off his spending-freeze proposal from last year, he proposed to freeze spending on a small portion of the federal budget for five years — the roughly 12 percent left after spending on defense, homeland security, interest on the debt and entitlements such as Medicare and Social Security.

Aides said his proposed freeze would pare \$400 billion off the projected federal deficit over 10 years.

Republicans were cool to the spending-freeze proposal, noting that it wouldn’t just lock out increases but cuts as well.

“At a time when the Treasury secretary is begging Congress to raise the debt limit, a ‘freeze’ is simply inadequate,” said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.



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Public health poll: Americans divided on health care laws

David Lightman
MCT

WASHINGTON — American attitudes toward changes in health care laws are “all over the map,” a Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health survey reported Tuesday.

While 28 percent want the 2010 health insurance law expanded, 19 percent said leave it alone, 23 percent backed repealing and replacing it with Republican ideas and 20 percent said repeat it, but don’t replace it.

Views fell largely along partisan lines, with 77 percent of Republicans supporting some sort of repeal, while 51 percent of Democrats said they wanted the law expanded.

The findings are similar to those of a Jan. 6-10 McClatchy-Marist poll, which found that 49 percent of Americans favored keeping the law the same or expanding it, while 43 percent favored repealing it or reducing its reach.

In the Kaiser survey, people were eager for Congress to keep working on health care.

“The fact that the public is largely split on what should happen next with regards to the health reform law does not mean that they want Congress to stop working on health care,” the survey found.

In fact, health care topped all issues people wanted Congress and President Barack Obama to address this year, at 46 percent. The economy and jobs were second at 40 percent, according to the poll.

Of those who mentioned health care as one of the country’s top two issues, 30 percent were Republicans, 29 percent Democrats and 36 percent independents.

The study coincides with a renewed effort by congressional Republicans to challenge the 2010 health care law. That Democratic-authored law requires most people to get insurance coverage by 2014 and requires most employers to offer it.

The House of Representatives voted last week to repeal the act, but that effort is likely to die in the Democratic-run Senate.

Instead, GOP lawmakers are expected to try to build alliances with like-minded Democrats to change parts of the law.

The Kaiser poll suggested that while that bid will be difficult, it’s not impossible. In all, 1,502 people were surveyed Jan. 4-14 on land-line and cell phones. The margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

As has been the case in poll after poll, people like certain parts of the law.

Some 85 percent liked the discount on brand-name prescription drugs for certain Medicare recipients, while 79 percent backed subsidies for low- and middle-income people to buy coverage. The law’s voluntary long-term care insurance program and expanding Medicaid, the joint state-federal health care program for lower-income people, got the support of more than two-thirds.

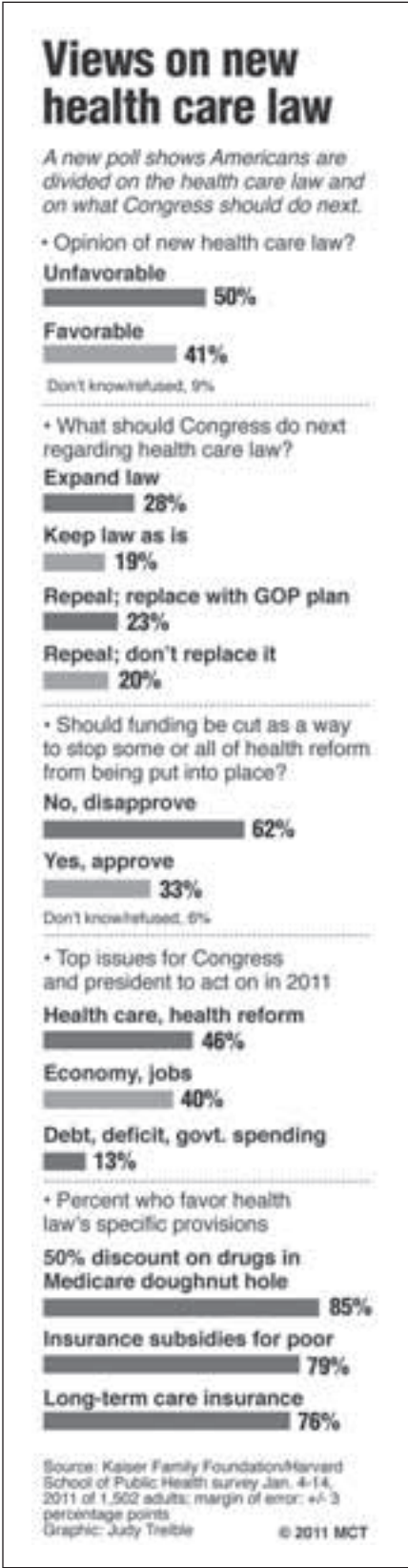
There’s strong opposition to a favorite Republican tactic: not providing funds to implement the legislation. Sixty-two percent disapproved of

that strategy.

However, Republicans have strong support for one of their major targets: Only 23 percent back the mandate that most people must buy coverage by 2014.

When respondents were asked about state lawsuits challenging the mandate, which are moving through the courts, the poll found that “Americans have mixed views as to their (the states’) motivation.”

Some 32 percent said the state leaders behind the suits thought that the law violated the Constitution, but the same percentage thought the leaders were trying to gain a political advantage. Twenty-two percent said the motivation was neither the law nor politics; instead, they think that the leaders think the policy is bad for the nation.



CAMPUS IMAGE



Photo: Brian O'Malley / Spartan Daily

South Bay Committee Against Political Repression members sing “FBI, why do they spy?” to the tune of “Three Blind Mice” in front of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Tuesday’s protest against FBI and Grand Jury repression.

RETIRE

From Page 1

scholarships with this money.”

Bussani said she would continue with the Acceleration campaign and continue to attempt to bring in donors who have been connected with the campus for a long time.

“Donors do designate where they want their money to go,” she said. “Typically they have an affinity for the college they graduated from.”

“It’s about reaching out

and bringing alumni back so that they can see the students, letting them meet the dean and cultivate the relationship so they know what they would be investing in if they gave back.”

Pat Lopes Harris, director of media relations for SJSU, said Najjar has done a great deal of work for the university.

“He sets a good example for everyone and it’s been a pleasure working with him for the five years that I’ve known him,” she said. “He’s

made sure that money has been well spent and he’s always been really responsible with everything.”

Harris said Bussani has been here every step of the way and is a highly established leader in and out of her division, and she will fill in the role perfectly.

Though Najjar is leaving, he said he’ll always have the fond memory of talking to broadcast reporters in the same T-shirt he wore for five days straight, given to him by a student in 1989.

PHOTO

From Page 1

Pace became interested in Burkina Faso because of his colleagues at Santa Clara University — Leslie Gray, director of the Environmental Studies Institute, and Michael Kevane, chair of the economics department, who studied Burkina Faso and started Friends of African Village Libraries.

“During my first visit I spent some time in Bereba, one of the villages with a library, and began photographing all aspects of life in the village,” Pace said. “It was a life-changing experience for me.”

Friends of African Village Libraries is a non-profit organization founded in 2001 and supports five libraries in Burkina Faso, along with supporting community libraries in Ghana, Tanzania and Uganda, according to the Friends of African Village Libraries website.

Pace said he became involved with the organization in 2007.

After two more visits to the country, Pace, Gray and Kevane proposed a study abroad program called “Reading West Africa” through Santa Clara University.

Pace said he led his first group of students to Burkina Faso in the Fall of 2009.

For 15 weeks, Pace taught digital photography to his students.

Six of those weeks were spent working directly with Friends of African Village Libraries, he said.

For the class project, the students created three photo books of their digital photography that documented their experiences, Pace said.

These books were also featured with Pace’s photography in the library exhibit.

They feature large pictures captioned in French, the official language of Burkina Faso, Pace said.



Photo courtesy: DavidPacePhotography.com

Clay bricks dry under the sun in Tabtinga 2008.

“This provides the people with reading material that they can relate to directly,” he said of the students’ books. “Creating the books involves the students very directly and personally in the life of the village.”

The village libraries average 2,000 books each and smaller versions of the students’ work are added to those collections, Pace said.

“Reading West Africa” returned to Burkina Faso again this past fall and Pace said they are planning to continue the program every fall.

“Earth Work: Mining Burkina Faso” will be available in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library through Jan. 30.

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King Library exhibit highlights women’s suffrage movement



Photo: Brian O’Malley / Spartan Daily
“100 Years — Winning the Vote in California,” located on the fourth floor of the King Library, shares different themed quilts from conservation to space.

Francisco Rendon
Staff Writer

For the duration of the 2011 spring semester, an exhibit on the fifth floor of the King Library celebrating 100 years of women’s suffrage in California will be open to the public.

The exhibit, offered by Special Collections and Archives, features posters, photos and artifacts donated by the International Museum of Women.

These items illustrate the women’s suffrage movement in different periods of time, as well as provide profiles on prominent women within the movement.

Special Collections Director Danelle Moon said the display was meant to commemorate women’s suffrage, as well as women’s history month in March.

“Over the last 100 years, women have had to (fight) to get their voices heard in government,” Moon said. “The western states (fueled) the women’s suffrage movement.”

The library has scheduled an event in the Schiro Room of the Dr. Martin King Jr. Library on Feb. 23, which will celebrate the opening of the exhibit and the accomplishments of the suffragists it highlights.

Displayed throughout the exhibit are materials from the International Museum of Women, formerly known as the Women’s Heritage Museum.

Museum Executive Director Clare Winterton said they are thrilled that the work from the museum is being highlighted.

“(This exhibit) is part of a larger effort to spotlight efforts that have been and need to continue being made by women,” she said.

“What I think people should know is that the San Jose State Library is a very special institution because they have this material.”

April Halberstadt
President of the San Jose Woman’s Club

Mei Fang, an instructor for the Center for Faculty Development, said the gallery provided a good variety of information from different time periods.

“(The exhibit) is very comprehensive, including history and today,” she said. “It takes a long time for changes, legal as well as mental.”

April Halberstadt, president of the San Jose Woman’s Club, said her organization, which has existed since 1894, had many members “certainly involved in suffrage.”

While she was pleased to see the library recognize this movement, Halberstadt said the women of this period were active in many other issues as well. “SJWC mentioned in their

first recorded minutes that they were interested in more than just suffrage and temperance, (but also) community development,” she said.

In its history as an organization, Halberstadt said the Woman’s Club was actively involved in supporting the city’s first kindergartens, hot meals in schools, separate gender jail facilities and early childcare for working women, and that much of the documentation was trusted to the library.

“The SJWC has placed a substantial portion of our early records in (Special Collections),” she said. “What I think people should know is that the San Jose State Library is a very special institution because they have this material. This is unique material. Some of these scrapbooks that they have are worth thousands of dollars.”

Moon said one purpose for the exhibit was to expose more people to Special Collections.

“The Special Collections Department has lots of materials available for research,” she said. “We want people to make use of the resources that the university has made available to us.”

Former student Robert Sanchez said he enjoyed the exhibit and was glad to see women honored and celebrated.

“If it wasn’t for women, none of us would be here,” he said. “They’re the ones to give us love from the beginning, to show us the tender side of the world.”

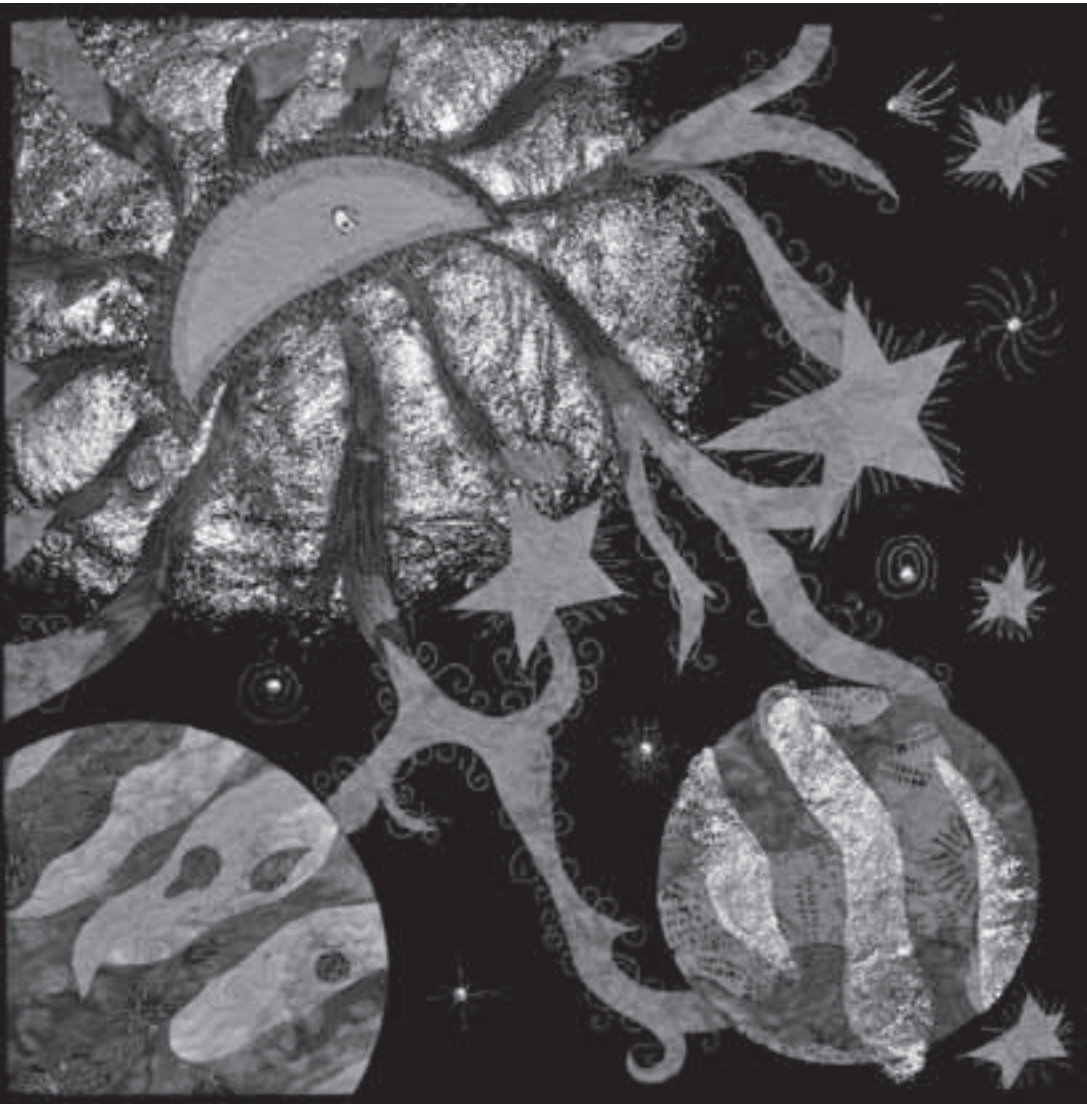
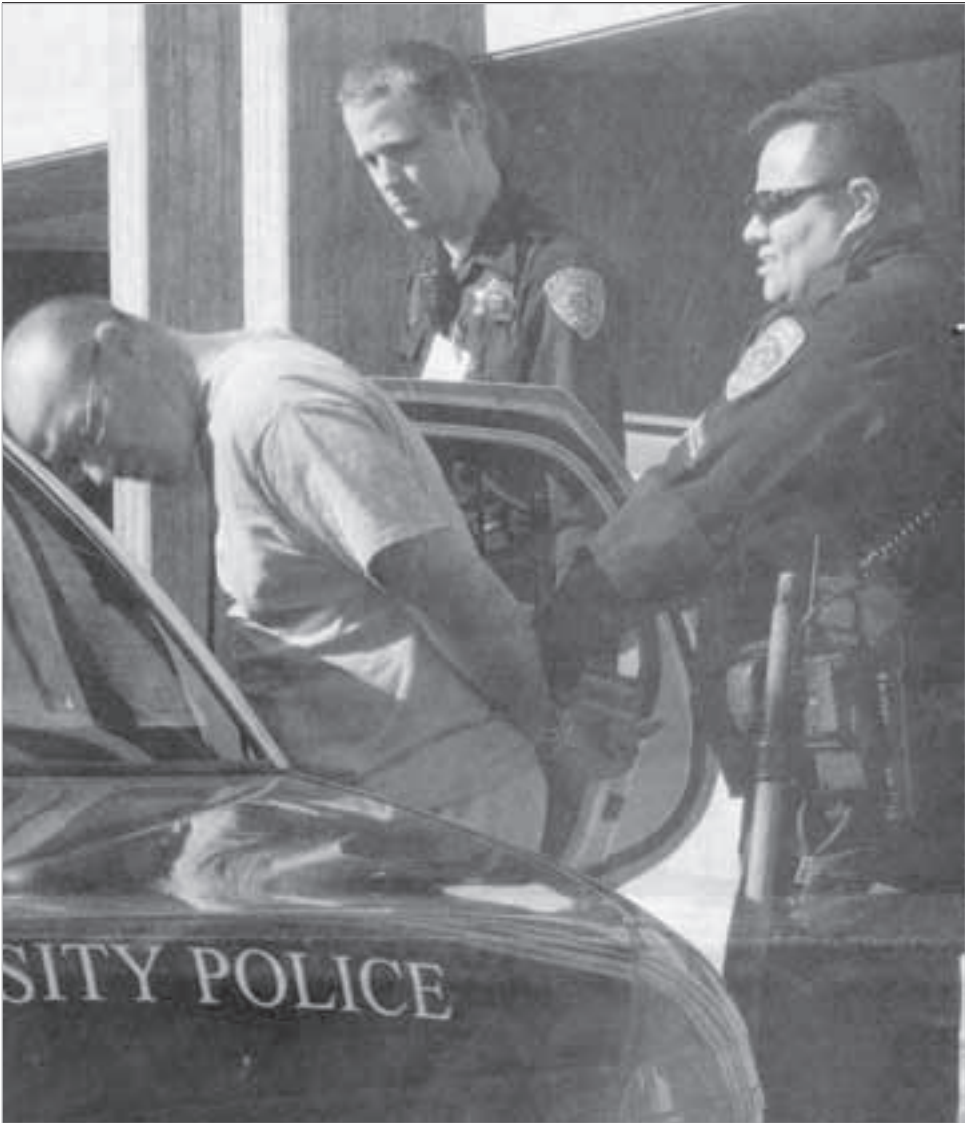


Photo: Brian O’Malley / Spartan Daily
“Universal Embrace” by Claude Wilson, Elizabeth Poggie and Karen Correia from the Jefferson Township Middle School in New Jersey, is one of the works on display in the King Library.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY ...



On January 26, 1992
The Spartan Daily Reported that ...

- Two employees of Beat The Bookstore were detained by university police for handing out leaflets and T-shirts in front of the Spartan Bookstore.
- University Police Department began a search for meteorology Professor Vinod Saxena, who had disappeared over winter break.
- A long-delayed wireless network went online, allowing students to have Internet access across campus.



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INFORMATION SESSIONS

San Francisco:

Wednesday, Jan. 26
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Four Points by Sheraton SF Bay Bridge, Emeryville

Santa Clara/Silicon Valley:

Thursday, Jan. 27
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Embassy Suites Santa Clara-Silicon Valley, Santa Clara

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sacramento.drexel.edu

LIVE IT.

■ GYMNASTICS

Wallace, Spartans tumble into victory

Melissa Sabile
Sports Editor

The SJSU women’s gymnastics team kicked off its first home meet of the season with high energy, outscoring Utah State and Wisconsin-Eau Claire on Friday night.

The Spartans stuck all four events and hit a season-high team score of 194.7, beating Utah State (191.35) by three points and UW-Eau Claire (181.675) by more than 10 points.

“We went 24 for 24,” head coach Wayne Wright said. “In gymnastics, six people go on each event, and you count all your routines. We did 24 for 24, no breaks, no falls. It was awesome.”

Senior Katie Merritt, who competes on vault, bars and beam, said the team competed well on every event and showed its potential at the home opener.

“It was our first time hitting 24 for 24,” Merritt said. “It was such an amazing team score – that’s what we’ve been shooting for. We needed that big score to boost our morale and just get the season going.”

The Spartans started out on vault, where junior Aubrey Lee scored a 9.625. Junior Katie Valleau followed up with a 9.650 and freshman Cassandra Harrison scored a 9.475. Merritt vaulted next and received a 9.675 and the scores were topped by junior Thomasina Wallace and senior Lily Swann, who both scored 9.80.

“It was one of my best vaults I’ve done,” said Valleau, who competes a Yurchenko full. “I’ve really been working about getting my landing so I was

really excited about that.”

With the top five scores on each event counting toward the final score, the Spartans had a vault total of 48.55 as they headed to bars to compete on their next event.

Senior Shanice Howard started off on bars, earning the Spartans a 9.70. Swann and sophomore Alyssa Telles-Nolan each scored a 9.775 with Harrison close behind with a 9.675. Merritt received a 9.725 and Wallace ended the event with a 9.60. After the second rotation and a team score of 48.65, the Spartans kept the lead over Utah State and UW-Eau Claire.

“It was a collective effort,” Wright said. “Everybody did what they do in practice, and everybody did what they came to do.”

The balance beam, which is normally the team’s toughest challenge, was no problem for the Spartans. Wallace started off the event with a solid 9.75, freshman Julia Greer earned the team a 9.625, followed by Merritt with a 9.65. Swann received a 9.60 and Lee scored a 9.675. Howard ended the event with a 9.40, giving the Spartans a season-high beam score of 48.30.

“Beam is getting better,” Wright said. “It’s just getting that confidence up and knowing you can do it. And this was it.”

Wallace said this was the first time this season that everyone stayed on the beam during competition.

“I felt like everyone was confident,” she said. “We all believed in each other. We knew we all could hit, and we just went out and did it.”

The Spartans then moved to the floor exercise, where they reached their highest team score of the night with a



Photo: Michelle Terris / Spartan Daily

Junior Thomasina Wallace finishes her floor routine during the home opener on Friday. Wallace, who scored a career best of 9.925, won the WAC Specialist of the Week on the floor exercise.

49.20. Lee started off the event with a 9.775 followed by Greer with a 9.75. Junior Casey McCord scored the team a 9.80 and was edged by Swann, who scored a 9.825. Wallace scored a career best of 9.925 and Valleau topped off the event with a 9.875.

Wright said Wallace’s score of 9.925 was reflective of her high energy and the difficult skill elements in her floor routine.

“She’s doing a new tumbling line and she made it tonight,” Wright said. “It’s called an Arabian double front. She did it really well and it was awesome.”

Wallace’s new tumbling pass and high score helped her receive the honor of Western Athletic Conference Special-

ist of the Week on the floor exercise.

“I’ve been working it on and off in the past years,” Wallace said. “But today was when I’m like, ‘I’m actually going to compete it.’ Last meet I fell on it, but this meet, I knew I could do it.”

Valleau said the team performed so well because it had such high energy competing in its home gym.

“We went 24 for 24 which was one of our main goals,” she said. “We hit everything. We worked a lot on stuck landings and produced some really big scores.”

Merritt said the Spartans came out with more than just a win with tonight’s performance.

“I think we’re going to take the fact that we have this potential,” she said. “We have the potential to get a 195. There’s still mistakes we made. But hopefully next week at home it’s a 195 plus.”

Wallace said the team learned something important at the home opener.

“We can hit as a team, no doubt,” she said. “We can just keep moving on from there and increasing our scores and keep hitting 24 for 24. Just clean up any little mistakes if we had any, but we hardly did.”

The Spartans will compete at home again as they face Sacramento State this Friday in the Yoshihiro Uchida Hall gym at 7 p.m.

■ BASKETBALL

Women’s basketball team rides free throw line to win

Melissa Sabile
Sports Editor

After starting the season 0-16, the SJSU women’s basketball team won its second straight game, defeating the University of Hawaii 53-43.

“We knew from watching film, they love to get to the basket,” head coach Pam DeCosta said. “We had to come up with a defense that wouldn’t let them get to the rim.”

The Spartans held the lead over the Rainbow Wahine throughout the duration of the game, earning their second win in the Western Athletic Conference.

“We kept them out on the perimeter and they had to take runners and bad shots,” DeCosta said. “I think our defense held up well. We stopped their offensive game.”

The Spartans (2-16, 2-3 WAC) were able to hold the Rainbow Wahine (6-12, 0-5 WAC) to 14.8 percent shooting in the first half and 28.3 percent shooting percentage for the game.

Freshman guard AJ Newton, who put up 15 points for the Spartans, said she was pleased with the team’s performance on Saturday night.

“The whole game plan was to isolate the post down low,” Newton said. “When my shot wasn’t falling, my bigs did a good job of getting offensive rebounds and we kept getting more possessions from it.”

She said a big factor in the win over the Rainbow Wahine was the team’s competitive effort in each half of the game.

“I think we’re finally starting to put two halves together and competing for the first 20 minutes and the second 20 minutes,” she said.

The Spartans scored 35 points in the second half, more than the 29 points the two teams

combined to score in the first half.

Though their shooting percentage from the field was 27.5 percent, the Spartans managed to get the majority of their points from free throws and were 22 for 24 from the line – all taken in the second half.

Junior guard Sara Plavljanić said it was good the team was able to pull an early lead.

“We played really smart on offense,” Plavljanić said. “We tried to find the things that are open and we used the post.”

She said her teammates were instrumental in helping her score 11 points.

“I have a really easy job,” she said. “My teammates always find me open so I just shoot and shots fall. If it doesn’t fall, I always find a post or something.”

DeCosta said the biggest dif-

ference in Saturday’s game was the fact that the majority of the team is back from injuries incurred earlier in the season.

“At the beginning of the year, we were just injured,” she said. “We had so many injuries – only playing seven players in uniform. We finally have nine players and they have been together for a while. We are starting to get some chemistry with each other.”

Newton said the team is looking to maintain its newly found winning streak.

“It feels good to start winning,” she said. “We’re becoming more of a team now. It was a good team win and I’m proud of everybody.”

The Spartans will play again tomorrow on the road against Fresno State and will look for their third consecutive win.



Photo: Vernon McKnight / Spartan Daily

Senior Sayja Sumler puts up a shot during the Spartans’ victory over the University of Hawaii on Saturday.

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Emotions run full circle in ‘Ouroboros’

Five-man cast delivers authentic performance

■ PLAY REVIEW

Kristen Pearson
Contributing Writer

With an outstanding cast of five people, the Renegade Theatre Experiment has pulled off a unique play that is both a comedy and a tragedy.

“Ouroboros,” written by Tom Jacobson, is a play that can be seen both forward and backward depending on which night you attend.

Nun’s Story was featured on the first night, a comedy starting with scene 1 in Rome and ending with scene 5 in Milan.

The next night showcased the Minister’s Story, a tragedy starting with scene 5 in Milan and ending with scene 1 in Rome.

This fascinating production could be hard to understand the first time around, which makes the story being told in the opposite direction on other nights convenient.

Renegade Theatre Experiment also offers patrons a half-price discount for coming to see the show again in the reverse order.

There were only five people in the cast. However, Chad Eschman, who played the Italians, took on the roles of 12 different men.

As I watched, I imagined how fun it would be to play so many different roles in one production.

At one point I observed Eschman coming out in a different costume every few seconds and I realized he must have put a lot of work into his characters.

Cindy Powell, playing Margaret the nun as her first role with the company, delivered an energetic character to the audience as she traveled from city to city.

Even though it would be hard to keep up with the phenomenal job of Eschman jumping from character to character, she played a believably passionate tourist.

Michael Rice, who played the nun’s friend Tor, did not even seem as though he was acting at times.

A few times during the production I had to remind myself that it was a play and I wasn’t watching someone’s actual life unfold before me.

Paul Stout, as Philip the minister in his first role with the company, seemed a little overdone when I saw the Nun’s Story, but when I watched it the other way around it made a lot more sense.

His wife Catherine, played by Blythe Murphy, did well as a woman suffering manic-depression because of mistakes she and her husband had made in the past as well as the present.

Her plight was definitely authentic and Murphy conveyed emotion in the performance that brought the audience to tears at the end of the tragedy.

The cast worked together as a unified body to bring a fantastic, mind-boggling

production to the San Jose area.

Being a highly religious piece, the show definitely made me think, but I guarantee if I had had more of the complementary wine the company offers before the production it still would have been an enjoyable night out.

Days later I have found myself thinking again and again about the implications of some of the religious themes, as well as

“ ... I had to remind myself that it was a play and I wasn’t watching someone’s actual life ... ”

the idea of two stories going in opposite directions and meeting in the middle.

Renegade Theatre Experiment’s “Ouroboros” will continue to play until Feb. 5 at the Hoover Middle School Theater on Park Avenue near Naglee Avenue.

Tickets are available to students with ID for \$12 and the dates and times of future productions can be found on the Theatre’s website.



Photo Courtesy: Jeff Crook / Renegade Theatre Experiment
Chad Eschman (right) poses with Blythe Murphy (left).

Your future’s timeline, fed.

pwc

2006	Completes PwC’s Semester of Discovery Internship program
2008	Earns BBA
2009	Earns Masters of Accounting
2010	Starts full-time position at PwC, pilots Reverse Mentorship program

Vanessa Cook, PwC Associate. First, it was PwC’s Semester of Discovery Internship program. Now, as a full-time Associate, Vanessa can request specific opportunities, reverse mentor senior staff, and even find time to train for triathlons—feeding her passions and her future. **To see Vanessa’s full timeline and how you can feed your future, visit www.pwc.tv**

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Bistro Tupaz serves European delights

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Ryan Fernandez
Managing Editor

I like to go out and eat, but I leave the job of picking out restaurants to my friends who make a habit of going out to random places to eat on a regular basis.

While their selections are sometimes hit-or-miss, they found a gem in Bistro Tupaz, a restaurant specializing in rustic European cuisine.

Bistro Tupaz sits in an upper-middle class strip mall in south San Jose, located at 5899 Santa Teresa Blvd., close to the intersection of Snell Avenue.

I was a little leery of their choice at first — their usual haunts are either big chain restaurants that can accommodate dozen-strong parties or small Korean,

Vietnamese, Chinese or Japanese eateries. We’ve never gone European before.

I did some reading before we went and found that Bistro Tupaz was known for serving wild game meats in place of the traditional pork and beef.

I was intrigued and a little apprehensive at the possibility of feasting on a bison burger or pasta with a wild boar ragu.

Alas, no exotic meats passed my lips on this visit — our server explained that the menu was seasonal and changed from time to time, depending on the availability of ingredients.

Dining bistro-style means ordering and paying for your food upfront, and my dining companion and I made our selections from an impressively expansive series of chalkboards that hung from the ceiling.

The cashier then handed over a laminated

card mounted on a stand and directed us to pick a seat wherever we liked. The card had the German flag and “Munchen” (the city we call “Munich” in English) printed on it, which I assumed was part of the restaurant’s overall European theme.

From the front register, the dining room wraps around to the left and right of the kitchen. We sat on the left-hand side, amid tables laden with a selection of games diners can play, including chess, Scrabble and Jenga. The right side offers an unenviable view of the concrete and glass facade of the building next door and eventually opens onto a patio for outdoor dining.

A few minutes after we were seated, the young woman who had taken our orders brought a complementary basket of bread she called “Touch of Grace,” accompanied by a tub of goat cheese butter.

Each palm-sized cube of bread was fluffy and had a cornbread-like texture and density, but eat it with the butter — the tart and salty flavor goes well with the sweetness of the bread and will keep the bread from drying out your mouth.

The arancini (\$3.95) arrived about five minutes later. They were six balls of breaded and fried risotto that I found were best enjoyed after being sliced open and left to cool for a few minutes. The rich and creamy interior was a wonderful contrast to the crispy outside.

Our server brought out the entrees and I regretted eating as many of the arancini as I did. I had the fettuccine marinara with meatballs (\$10.95) and my dining companion had the eggplant parmigiana (\$10.95).

Just as we were ordering, one of the cooks walked by and gently warned that the bistro’s marinara sauce was made in-house, using organic ingredients and no sugar, meaning that it might be more tart than we were used to having.

It was a fair warning, as there was a definite spark on my tongue when I took that first bite of chewy, homemade

fettuccine, but it was mellowed by the addition of cheese. My dinner date thought the marinara on her parmigiana was too sour — it appeared to have been reduced further than mine, making for a thicker, more intense sauce.

The meatballs were large, but light, and just as I thought I had eaten the last one, I kept finding more buried under my pasta and garlic bread.

The eggplant parmigiana was a slice of eggplant, fried and topped with cheese, over a bed of pasta and accompanied by a sweet and buttery roasted acorn squash with onion slices resting in the center hollow.

Instead of heartily slogging our way through the meal, we made a conscious decision to make room for dessert and stopped eating about halfway through our formidable platters.

The waitress brought out a miniature Black Forest cake (\$6.95), covered in whipped cream and studded with chocolate shards, with a halo of cherries around the top.

The cake was luscious, a seductive concert of tart cherries, sweet cream and bitter chocolate — it felt as though I were committing a sin just by enjoying it.

The portions are generous — I’m sure either entree would have fed the both of us. I would discourage finishing everything on your plate, especially if you ordered an appetizer and dessert — don’t worry about wasting your food since there’s always the option of taking it home.

The staff is friendly, knowledgeable and prompt with their service, though it probably helped that we came in just as the evening rush had ended.

Bistro Tupaz is a bit of a drive from the university and can get pricey, so I wouldn’t recommend dining there on a daily basis or on the spur of the moment.

But it is a great place to go with a group of friends or on a date — the relaxed atmosphere makes for easy conversation, and at the very least, you’ll be able to talk about your food.



Photo: Ryan Fernandez / Spartan Daily

The Black Forest cake is topped with whipped cream, chocolate shards and cherries.

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	9		3			6	
7		3	9		4		2
2	5					4	8
		1	7				

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. San Francisco
5. Get away
9. Hobbies
14. Pasta sauce brand
15. Town called Wichita
16. From 12 wds
17. Case decorator
18. Hung out
19. No longer woolly
20. Kind of pencil
22. All-in-one show
24. Mosquito genus
26. Get together
27. Ventures
30. Speechless to this
35. Cold weather wear
36. Arms of the UN
37. Rock teachings
38. Prank for comic
39. Tail beat
42. Farmer
43. General weekly
45. Orb segments
46. Kind of toy
48. Very aching
50. Chocolate dessert
51. Open container
52. Che.
54. Letter opener
57 wds
58. Sentences
62. Pay by mail
63. Trazzies tea
65. Shopping plaza
66. Wash out
67. With hymn word
68. L.L. Bean
69. Housed up
70. About food
71. Lots and lots

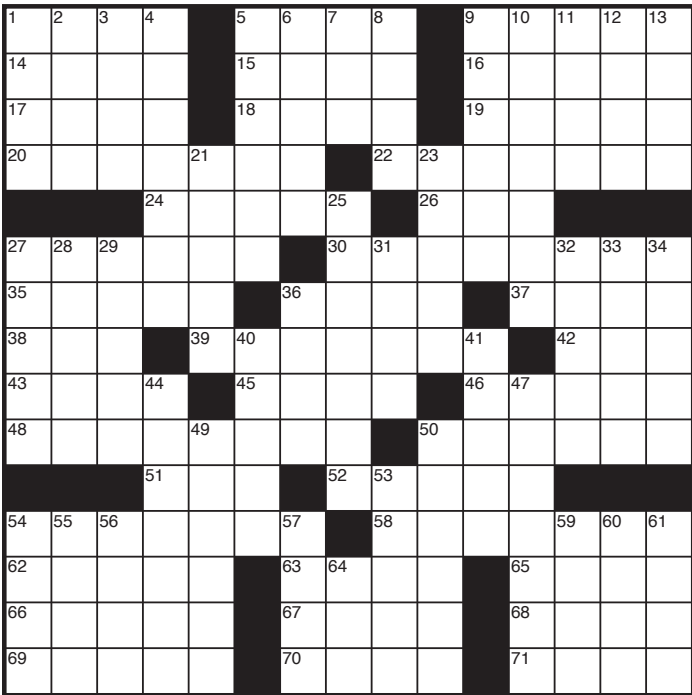
DOWN

1. Crazy choice
2. No sale

3. Fast moving
4. Shasta dairy division
6. Etc supports
7. Cigar company
8. Common file
9. Unwind
9. Speed demon's cry
10. Abacusboard
11. Band's track
12. Press one's luck
13. Add lang
21. Change prices
23. Spring time
25. Candle holders
27. Say a few words
28. Blue Ghetto site
29. Exquisite spoken
31. Alien four buses?
32. Standards
33. Old trucks
34. Bites
36. Soccer — Van
40. Temple figure
41. Greek town
44. On the seaboard
47. Fall's
49. No longer Abbey? never is
50. Marmite's
53. Jazz singer
54. Lock a card
55. A Saurian
56. In a frenzy
57. One Homer's name
59. Ship's canvas
60. Ocean-going
61. Put away gear
64. Teacher's name



WELCOME
BACK
SPARTANS!



IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday, February 7
Last day to drop a class without a “W” grade for Spring

Monday, February 14
Last day to add for Spring

Monday, March 28 - Friday, April 1
Spring Recess

Thursday, March 31
Cesar Chavez Day - campus closed

EDITORIAL

New beginnings and optimism

On this page of opinions, you are reading the words of a new Spartan Daily editorial board with new members and new ideas.

In the coming months, we will strive to shed a bit of light on the pressing issues of the day, both big and small.

We imagine a university improved, a university that welcomes its students and calls them to their better selves.

At times, no doubt, we will struggle to fully grasp the significance of some of the major changes taking place around us.

Neither can we say with any measure of certainty how the future will change SJSU, nor will we claim to know how continued economic uncertainty, our involvement in multiple wars or our changing political climate will leave their respective marks.

In the wake of the tragedy in Arizona and the brewing dialogue over the rhetoric of our discourse, our hope is to move forward a conversation in which ideas can meet and be discussed openly, without reticence and without sliding into the kind of vitriol that has become a daily part of public debate.

In the year and years ahead, it is up to all of us to remain vigilant and to be part of the dialogue.

We must realize that in this globalized world, what we do — even within the walls of SJSU, or within the city limits of our bustling metropolis of more than 1 million people — can have enormous impact.

Never doubt that a small group of committed people can affect profound change, because history tells us that it is the only thing that has.

We must continue to adapt as the world changes, but we must also hold onto what we value. And that is not just the education we receive

here. We may cast our eyes skyward, but we cannot forget what is right in front of us.

San Jose State is our home and thus we will not set aside the bread-and-butter issues of undergraduate life.

We want good food to eat and comfortable resident halls. We want small classes and access to our professors.

We want jobs that will give us a living wage.

That said, we do not begin the year with an agenda, nor will we craft our stories or our editorials with a larger vision.

Our intent will be to put forth a variety of perspectives from which we can all learn.

Looking forward into the year, these are times of possibility for SJSU. This is not a blind optimism, but a tempered hope.

It is our privilege to write on this page. As we embark on the 136th incarnation of the Spartan Daily, we encourage you to join us on this journey with your letters to the editor.

Thank you for reading. We hope that the new year is a bright one.

Editorial Staff,
Spartan Daily

Please send your
letters to the editor to:
spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu

Take your vacation time seriously



Ryan Fernandez
Managing Editor

On the first day of winter break, I went home, kicked off my shoes, threw my backpack into a corner, and spent the next few weeks more-or-less sequestered in my room with a brand-new PlayStation 3 and about a dozen games for company.

And now, on the first day of class, the main thought running through my head (other than “Crap, I have to add another class!”) is: “What the hell did I do for a month?”

Followed up by: “Ack! I wasted my vacation!”

It’s a familiar feeling, coming off another break and wondering whether I should have done more than spend my time in the company of computer-generated friends and foes.

I suppose I could have worked to bring up my GPA instead of working to bring down a galaxy-spanning conspiracy that threatens all sapient life on a regular basis.

I suppose I could have tracked the progress of any number of papers and projects I had in the works instead of tracking a missile-launcher wielding, mutant behemoth through bombed-out ruins.

I suppose I could have padded my résumé instead of padding my trophy list on the Playstation Network.

Indeed, I suppose I should have done a lot of

things — but I didn’t.

Well, so much for eternal summer (uh, winter) slacking.

It’s a common refrain that breaks are always too long and yet never long enough.

The first few days are filled with excitement and anticipation of everything you’re planning to do — a key phrase seen in the comments to various Facebook status updates is “OMG! Yeah, let’s do it!”

Then the euphoria wanes as the midpoint approaches and everyone settles into a new routine — text messages are exchanged, stating “Yeah, I’m bored at home, let’s go.”

The frenzy starts to build again when it finally hits that those halcyon days are quickly coming to a close — “Dude, we need to go drinking again before the semester starts!”

Still, it’s important to cherish whatever time off you have.

I only wish I had realized that sooner. After all, in the so-called real world there are no such as things as summer vacation or spring break.

If — no, when (I must stay optimistic) — I start working on a full-time basis, I’m not going to have obligatory multimonth vacations to spend as I please.

Any me-time will have to come at the expense of considerable personal and professional effort.

With that in mind, I have resolved to enjoy whatever time off I get, regardless of how I spend it — whether I’m laying half-passed out on a couch after having too many blue and green-tinted drinks, aiming down a set of crosshairs on my TV screen or waking up at four in the afternoon because I went to sleep at four in the morning.

To regret a vacation is to waste it — after all, vacations aren’t about catching up on lost sleep. They’re about losing sleep without having to worry about the consequences.

But for now, drink whatever hangover cure you have, dust off your backpack and put your fingers back on home row — it’s time to go back to work.

Profit trumps life in U.S.



Alex Spicer
Sports Editor

In March 2009, President Barack Obama lifted the restrictions previously placed on stem cell research by former President George W. Bush, releasing hundreds of millions of dollars in government funds toward the effort.

However, since then there have been no government funded projects that have reached the clinical trial stage, and much of this has to do with the choked pipeline of scientists trying to secure patents.

The exclusive intellectual rights the scientists are fighting for could potentially lead to big paydays should their discoveries one day lead to a halting or reversing of conditions such as blindness or diabetes.

The process has blocked many U.S. scientists from progressing their work.

Scientists often spend years working toward a discovery, only to find that a university or private company already has secured the exclusive rights to it, effectively halting the work of experienced scientists trying to further their studies.

This is an unfortunate effect of the capitalistic nature of the U.S. While on one hand competition pours more effort into developing treatments using stem cells, on the other it bogs down a process that should be streamlined among companies and scientists who need to share their discoveries with others, not sit on them for profit.

In other countries around the world, they have taken the right steps to avoid this problem.

In Europe, scientists cannot file patents for stem cell discoveries after a 2008 ruling that

decided it went against public order.

In the United Kingdom, scientists must file any new stem cell discoveries with a stem cell bank immediately.

There are a few things on earth that are more important than money, and this is one of them.

Stem cell research is vital in the fight toward treatments and cures for debilitating conditions such as spinal cord injuries, heart disease and Alzheimer’s disease, which afflict people all over the world.

It is disheartening to see a nation full of prominent scientists such as the U.S. be so backward as to think about profits before progress, when the rest of the world is taking the steps to avoid the same issues that plague U.S. scientists.

The ironic thing about the whole issue is that in the long run the U.S. is only holding itself back in the world of stem cell research.

As the U.S. dithers with the technicalities of who owns patent rights to this and that, other countries around the world are quickly coming up in the rear-view mirror in terms of stem cell science, and could eventually leave the U.S. in the dust.

I can understand that many of the companies researching stem cells are businesses that have investors relying on them to create a big return on their money, but the process needs to be re-evaluated so that the road blocks American scientists are unable to avoid are cleared.

If Europe and much of the rest of the world is able to make progress and profits without exclusive stem cell patent rights, then the U.S. certainly has no reason to think otherwise.

Value of degree changes

It’s the first day of the semester and I’ve decided I would weigh in on the value of what we’re here for: an education.

About a week ago, a study performed by Richard Arum, professor of sociology and education at NYU Steinhardt, and Josipa Roksa, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Virginia, posed the question, “Are undergraduates actually learning anything?”

Using survey responses, transcript data and test scores for the Collegiate Learning Assessment — a standardized test given to students in their first semester of college and again at the conclusion of their second year — Arum and Roksa found that 45 percent of undergrads “made no significant gains” in a range of skills over their first two years of enrollment.

The study included 3,000 students from 24 institutions and is covered at length in the book “Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses.”

Many blame the findings on the major uptick in students caring only about their social lives and spending 50 percent less time studying than undergraduates of the ’70s and ’80s. According to the study, students spent 75 percent

of their time socializing and sleeping while only spending 16 percent of the time studying or attending class.



Marlon Maloney
Copy Editor

This is something that should’ve been expected. The number of people enrolling in college has risen significantly since the ’70s and ’80s as the importance of having a bachelor’s degree has become increasingly important to our generation’s job prospects.

I would argue that today’s bachelor’s degree is equivalent to what having a high school diploma meant 20 years ago. Everyone who’s anyone has a bachelor’s degree nowadays, having one is just to make sure your résumé isn’t thrown out while your desired employer guffaws at the fact that you had the gall to even apply.

With the growing number of high school students adjusting to what has become an

expectation and near requirement for any kind of job in this country, along with the abundance of mobile and social technology, some slippage is to be expected.

I remember my time as an undergraduate at this institution taking general education courses. The classes are supposed to provide us with a wide base of knowledge before we get into all the upper division courses designed for our majors. In other words, it’s two more years of high school sprinkled with a dash of freedom from mom and dad.

But it also serves as a time to get to know the people around us. If everybody has a college degree then what is there to separate us from one another?

It’s not what you know it’s who you know, remember? I’d like to see what these same tests would find if done on students at the beginning of their third year and at the conclusion of their fourth.

Until then I’m not all that worried about the Arum and Roksa’s findings. The world is in a constant state of change and to me this is just another one of them.

The relationships we create in our college lives might not begin with the intent of networking in mind, but over time many of these relationships become the little bit extra that gets us our next job.

Editorial
Cartoon



SJSU on the other side of the globe

During the Winter break a group of SJSU students toured the United Arab Emirate cities such as Dubai and Abu Dhabi. Below are few examples of the group saw and learned about the growing Middle Eastern metropolises.



Clockwise starting from top left: The Dubai creek is a natural waterway that splits the city in half. It was dredged in the '60s to accommodate larger ships and the city's growing shipping industry. Tourists and locals can cross the creek via bridge or dhow (water taxis), which cost one dirham, roughly equivalent to 35 cents; The Souq Al-Masqoof in Sharjah. Sharjah is the United Arab Emirates' cultural and educational center. Sharjah is also one of the most conservative emirates; To promote cultural understanding between emirates, United Arab Emirates nationals and the western world, the government established the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, where discussions are held along with traditional emirate meals; Dune bashing — four-wheel driving in the desert — and desert safaris — camping trips in the desert — are a popular pastime in the emirates; The Burj Khalifa is the world's tallest building, standing at 2,716.5 feet tall with more than 160 stories and is the dominant building in the Dubai skyline; The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi is the largest mosque in the United Arab Emirates and is home to the world's largest chandelier and the largest handmade carpet. It is also the burial site for the father of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

Photo: Donovan Farnham / Spartan Daily

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